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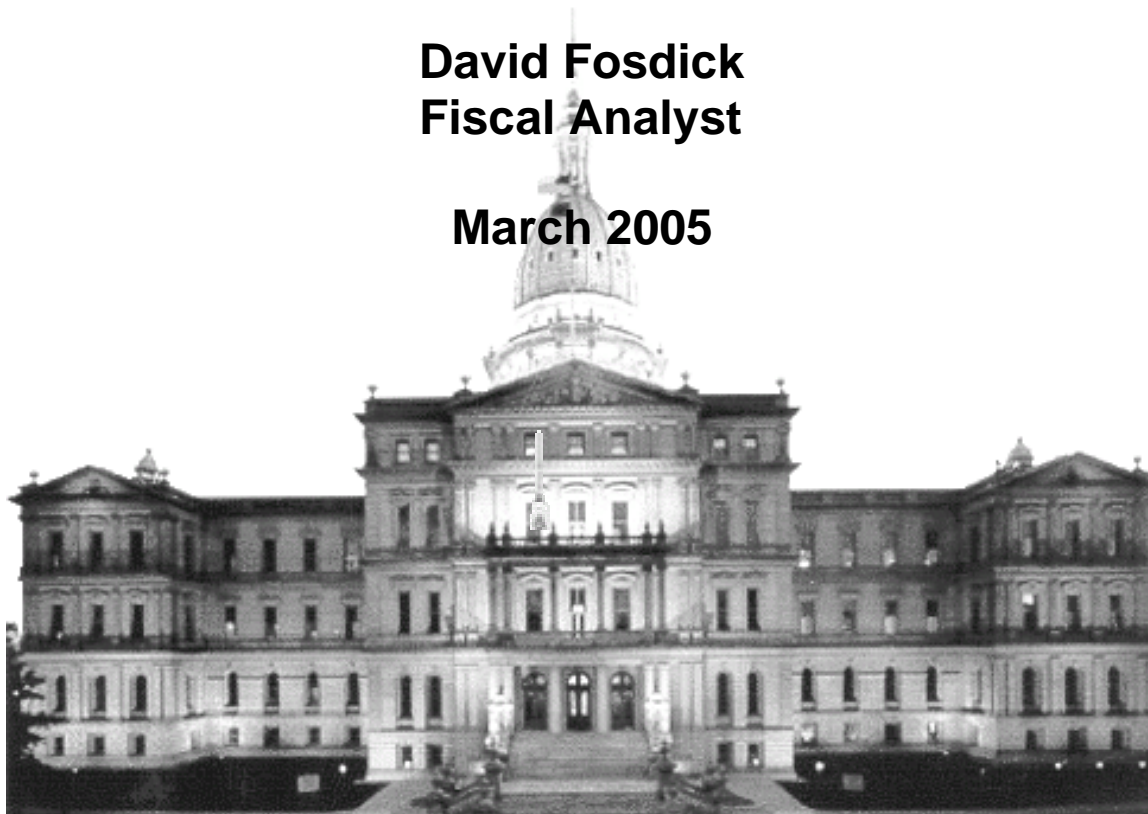


## **MEDICAID ENROLLMENT IN THE STATE OF MICHIGAN 1999-2004**

by

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## INTRODUCTION

One of the dominant themes of budget discussions over the past few years has been the significant growth in the Medicaid caseload and the corresponding cost pressures this has created. The purpose of this paper is to examine the growth of Medicaid enrollment in the State of Michigan from Fiscal Year 1998-99 to FY 2003-04, compare this growth with national trends in Medicaid enrollment, and determine each regional and county contribution to the growth of enrollment in Medicaid statewide.

The results of The Senate Fiscal Agency's examination of this growth suggest that Medicaid enrollment change in Michigan was consistent with trends observed nationally during this period. Further study of this growth revealed that all enrollment groups within the program regions of the State, and counties within each of these regions, experienced significant increases in the number of individuals participating in the program.

## MEDICAID ENROLLMENT IN MICHIGAN 1999-2004

At the end of FY 2003-04, the State of Michigan had 1,407,712 individuals enrolled in Medicaid. This represented the largest caseload in the history of Michigan's Medicaid program. Eleven of the 12 months in FY 2003-04 saw an increase in Medicaid enrollment.

As shown in [Table 1](#), Medicaid enrollment grew from about 1.06 million individuals in April 1999 to over 1.37 million individuals in April 2004, an increase of 29.3%. Average annual growth from 1999 to 2004 was 5.3%, with the largest increase between 2001 and 2002 (8.8%) and the smallest increase between 1999 and 2000 (0.8%).

<b>Table 1</b>						
<b>STATE OF MICHIGAN</b>						
<b>MEDICAID ENROLLMENT GROWTH: 1999-2004</b>						
	<b>April 1999</b>	<b>April 2000</b>	<b>April 2001</b>	<b>April 2002</b>	<b>April 2003</b>	<b>April 2004</b>
Enrollment	1,059,919	1,068,325	1,122,744	1,221,273	1,291,816	1,370,755
% Change	n/a	0.8%	5.1%	8.8%	5.8%	6.1%

Source: Family Independence Agency Monthly Assistance Payment Statistics

## NATIONAL ENROLLMENT TRENDS

The growth in caseload in the State of Michigan mirrors a trend that is apparent nationally. A study released by the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured<sup>1</sup> found national enrollment growth similar to that in Michigan. This study documents that Medicaid enrollment in the 50 states increased by 30.6% between June 1999 and June 2003, an average annual growth of about 7.0% per year.

Table 2 compares the growth in Medicaid enrollment in all states with the increases reported by the State of Michigan. It seems fairly clear that the enrollment growth experienced in Michigan is consistent with national enrollment trends. (The Michigan figures are provided for the midpoint of the State fiscal year (April) and the U.S. numbers are reported for June, the midpoint of the calendar year.)

<b>Table 2</b>					
<b>COMPARISON OF MICHIGAN AND NATIONAL MEDICAID ENROLLMENT GROWTH: 1999-2003</b>					
	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>1999-2003</b>
MI % Change	0.8%	5.1%	8.8%	5.8%	21.8%
US % Change	3.7	8.3	9.8	5.9	30.6

Source: Family Independence Agency Monthly Assistance Payment Statistics, Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured.

## INCREASE BY ENROLLMENT CATEGORY

To provide a better understanding of where the increases described above are found within Michigan's Medicaid program, Medicaid caseload statistics have been separated into two broad groups. The first group, sometimes referred to as "Families", is primarily made up of children, parents of children, and pregnant women who meet the program's income and asset requirements. Enrollees from this group often gain access to the Medicaid program through the State's Family Independence Program (FIP) and Healthy Kids, a Medicaid program available to children and pregnant women.

The second enrollee category is largely composed of individuals who are elderly or suffer from a disability and meet income and asset requirements. This broad eligibility group is often called Aged, Blind and Disabled (ABD). Individuals enrolled in this group commonly gain access to the Medicaid program through automatic enrollment offered through the Federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program.

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<sup>1</sup> Ellis, Smith and Rousseau, "Medicaid Enrollment in 50 States, June 2003 Update", Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured, October 2004.



Table 3 provides an overview of enrollment by these categories in Michigan from 1999 to 2004. This table further breaks down enrollment in these categories between children and adults. Please note that the categories used in this examination are far broader than those used by the Michigan Medicaid program, and that the information was compiled in such a way that enrollment numbers do not match exactly the official enrollment figures compiled by Michigan Medicaid.

Table 3

ESTIMATED MEDICAID ENROLLMENT BY CATEGORY: 1999-2004								
Year	Families		ABD		Total		Cumulative Change	
	Enroll.	% Chg.	Enroll.	% Chg.	Enroll.	% Chg.	Enroll.	% Chg.
<b>1999 Total</b>	<b>727,954</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>327,495</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>1,055,449</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>n/a</b>
<i>Children</i>	520,328	n/a	37,350	n/a	557,678	n/a	0	n/a
<i>Adults</i>	207,626	n/a	290,145	n/a	497,771	n/a	0	n/a
<b>2000 Total</b>	<b>731,373</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>329,452</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	<b>1,060,825</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>5,376</b>	<b>0.5%</b>
<i>Children</i>	533,923	2.6	34,836	(6.7)	568,759	2.0	11,081	2.0
<i>Adults</i>	197,450	(4.9)	294,616	1.5	492,066	(1.1)	(5,705)	(1.1)
<b>2001 Total</b>	<b>779,555</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>335,412</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1,114,967</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>59,518</b>	<b>5.6</b>
<i>Children</i>	563,197	5.5	34,193	(1.8)	597,390	5.0	39,712	7.1
<i>Adults</i>	256,552	9.6	301,219	2.2	517,577	5.2	19,806	4.0
<b>2002 Total</b>	<b>882,301</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>344,841</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>1,227,142</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>171,693</b>	<b>16.3</b>
<i>Children</i>	625,749	11.1	34,223	0.1	659,972	10.5	102,294	18.3
<i>Adults</i>	256,552	18.6	310,618	3.1	567,170	9.6	69,399	13.9
<b>2003 Total</b>	<b>937,270</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>356,817</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>1,294,087</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>238,638</b>	<b>22.6</b>
<i>Children</i>	663,454	6.0	34,750	1.5	698,204	5.8	140,526	25.2
<i>Adults</i>	273,816	6.7	322,067	3.7	595,883	5.1	98,112	19.7
<b>2004 Total</b>	<b>1,008,307</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>365,947</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>1,374,254</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>318,805</b>	<b>30.2</b>
<i>Children</i>	701,082	5.7	35,893	3.3	736,975	5.6	179,297	32.2
<i>Adults</i>	307,225	12.2	330,054	6.3	637,279	6.9	139,508	28.0

Source: Family Independence Agency, Department of Information Technology Data Warehouse

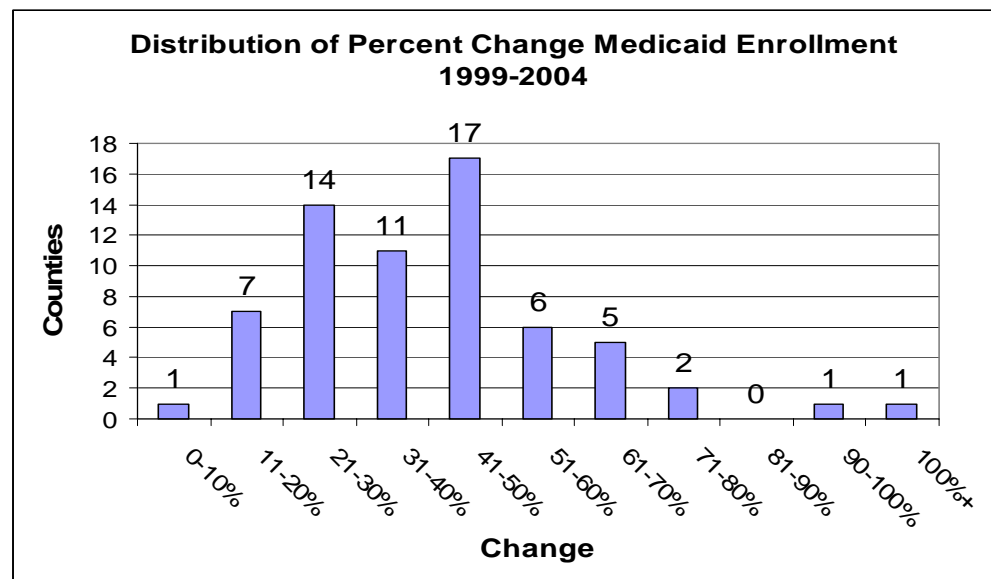
Table 3 reports total enrollment growth of 318,805 individuals from 1999 to 2004, a 30.2% increase. Individuals enrolled in the Families category increased by 280,353 (a 38.5% increase), accounting for about 88.0% of the total enrollment growth over this time period. Within the Families category, the number of child enrollees increased by 180,754 (a 34.7% change), accounting for about 65.0% of the growth in this eligibility group and about 57.0% of the total enrollment growth. Adults enrolled in the Families category increased by nearly 100,000 (47.9%), making up 35.0% of the growth in the Families category and about 31.0% of the total Medicaid enrollment growth.

The Aged, Blind and Disabled category shows a net increase as well, but this change is far smaller than the growth found in the Families category. The ABD enrollment increased by 38,452 from 1999 to 2004 (an 11.7% change), accounting for about 12.0% of the total enrollment increase. Children enrolled in ABD actually decreased by about 1,400 (4.0%) over this time period while adults increased by nearly 40,000 (13.8%). Adult ABD enrollees account for about 12.5% of the total enrollment increase over this period.

### MEDICAID INCREASE BY COUNTY

Examination of Medicaid enrollment data by county, provided in Table 4, reveals that enrollment growth has universally affected counties across the State of Michigan. Every county in the State had a higher number of individuals enrolled in the Medicaid program in October 2004 than it did in April 1999. Furthermore, with the exception of one county (Ontonagon), every county in Michigan experienced a double-digit percentage increase in Medicaid enrollment over this five-year period. Figure 1 depicts the distribution of percentage increases from 1999 to 2004.

**Figure 1**



The distribution in Figure 1 demonstrates that the majority of counties in the State saw an increase in Medicaid enrollment between 20% and 50% from 1999 through 2004. (Note that Table 4, in some cases, provides Medicaid enrollment combined across two neighboring counties; as a result, the total number of units in Figure 1 is lower than the total number of counties in the State of Michigan.)

In several instances, the State modified how it reported Medicaid enrollment for an individual county: either changing the pairings of counties reported as a combined figure or separating combined numbers and reporting Medicaid enrollment information for a county individually. As a result, it was not possible to compare Medicaid enrollment change for Benzie, Leelanau, and Grand Traverse Counties between 1999 and 2004 using Family Independence Agency Monthly Assistance Payment Statistics.

Table 4

MEDICAID ENROLLMENT BY COUNTY: 1999-2004														
County	April 1999	April 2000	% Change	April 2001	% Change	April 2002	% Change	April 2003	% Change	April 2003	% Change	October 2004	% Change	% Change 4/99 10/04
Alcona	1,444	1,436	(0.6)	1,490	3.8	1,681	12.8	1,767	5.1	1,785	1.0	1,701	(4.7)	17.8
Alger/Schoolcraft	2,500	2,555	2.2	2,734	7.0	2,825	3.3	2,782	(1.5)	2,891	3.9	2,852	(1.3)	14.1
Allegan	6,830	7,194	5.3	8,287	15.2	9,741	17.5	11,332	16.3	13,026	14.9	13,134	0.8	92.3
Alpena	4,360	4,556	4.5	4,924	8.1	5,301	7.7	5,404	1.9	5,652	4.6	5,579	(1.3)	28.0
Antrim/Kalkaska	4,142	4,289	3.5	4,732	10.3	5,278	11.5	5,724	8.5	6,335	10.7	6,509	2.7	57.1
Arenac	2,570	2,633	2.5	2,779	5.5	2,951	6.2	3,008	1.9	3,132	4.1	3,193	1.9	24.2
Baraga	1,071	1,086	1.4	1,129	4.0	1,218	7.9	1,248	2.5	1,425	14.2	1,375	(3.5)	28.4
Barry/Eaton	9,952	10,228	2.8	11,279	10.3	12,940	14.7	14,482	11.9	16,083	11.1	16,476	2.4	65.6
Bay	12,662	12,648	(0.1)	13,338	5.5	14,066	5.5	14,748	4.8	15,656	6.2	15,920	1.7	25.7
Benzie	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2,194	n/a	2,203	0.4	n/a
Benzie/Leelanau	2,756	2,863	3.9	3,146	9.9	3,357	6.7	3,555	5.9	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Berrien	23,000	22,881	(0.5)	24,122	5.4	25,594	6.1	26,338	2.9	27,322	3.7	27,779	1.7	20.8
Branch	4,637	4,597	(0.9)	5,394	17.3	5,878	9.0	6,142	4.5	6,809	10.9	6,924	1.7	49.3
Calhoun	18,459	18,215	(1.3)	19,455	6.8	21,151	8.7	22,154	4.7	23,885	7.8	24,529	2.7	32.9
Cass	5,363	5,342	(0.4)	6,119	14.5	7,018	14.7	7,211	2.8	7,497	4.0	7,629	1.8	42.3
Charlevoix/Emmet	5,179	5,026	(3.0)	5,454	8.5	6,107	12.0	6,809	11.5	7,321	7.5	7,476	2.1	44.4
Chippewa/Luce	5,593	5,982	7.0	6,292	5.2	6,643	5.6	7,130	7.3	7,250	1.7	7,011	(3.3)	25.4
Cheyboygan	3,342	n/a	n/a	3,838	n/a	4,147	8.1	4,471	7.8	4,693	5.0	4,744	1.1	42.0
Cheyboygan/Macina	n/a	4,518	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Clare	5,341	5,279	(1.2)	5,732	8.6	6,082	6.1	6,335	4.2	6,695	5.7	6,870	2.6	28.6
Clinton/Shiawassee	9,568	9,799	2.4	10,597	8.1	12,177	14.9	13,120	7.7	14,368	9.5	14,957	4.1	56.3
Crawford	2,112	2,111	(0.0)	2,192	3.8	2,371	8.2	2,418	2.0	2,507	3.7	2,511	0.2	18.9
Delta/Menominee	7,663	7,641	(0.3)	7,951	4.1	8,754	10.1	9,237	5.5	9,729	5.3	9,636	(1.0)	25.7
Dickinson/Iron	4,472	4,650	4.0	4,897	5.3	5,329	8.8	5,708	7.1	5,945	4.2	6,103	2.7	36.5
Genesee	65,571	66,889	2.0	69,131	3.4	74,554	7.8	77,469	3.9	80,937	4.5	82,408	1.8	25.7
Gladwin	3,479	3,330	(4.3)	3,642	9.4	4,093	12.4	4,337	6.0	4,607	6.2	4,601	(0.1)	32.3
Gogebic	2,590	2,720	5.0	2,649	(2.6)	2,743	3.5	2,783	1.5	2,852	2.5	2,889	1.3	11.5
Grand Traverse	5,510	5,701	3.5	6,194	n/a	7,213	16.5	7,864	9.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Grand Traverse/Leelanau	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	10,504	n/a	11,052	5.2	n/a
Gratiot	4,373	4,555	4.2	4,904	7.7	5,491	12.0	5,891	7.3	6,312	7.1	6,572	4.1	50.3
Hillsdale	4,231	4,503	6.4	5,079	12.8	5,566	9.6	5,980	7.4	6,760	13.0	6,887	1.9	62.8
Houghton/Keweenaw	4,629	4,742	2.4	4,842	2.1	5,146	6.3	5,501	6.9	5,678	3.2	5,739	1.1	24.0
Huron	3,682	3,899	5.9	4,146	6.3	4,867	17.4	5,195	6.7	5,391	3.8	5,410	0.4	46.9
Ingham	31,551	31,681	0.4	33,204	4.8	34,618	4.3	35,330	2.1	37,169	5.2	38,496	3.6	22.0
Ionia/Montcalm	11,629	12,100	4.1	12,923	6.8	14,773	14.3	15,864	7.4	17,569	10.7	17,936	2.1	54.2
Iosco	3,407	3,533	3.7	3,940	11.5	4,329	9.9	4,646	7.3	4,818	3.7	4,930	2.3	44.7

Table 4 (continued)

MEDICAID ENROLLMENT BY COUNTY: 1999-2004														
County	April 1999	April 2000	% Change	April 2001	% Change	April 2002	% Change	April 2003	% Change	April 2003	% Change	October 2004	% Change	% Change 4/99 10/04
Isabella	5,622	5,629	0.1	6,177	9.7	6,669	8.0	6,849	2.7	7,538	10.1	7,647	1.4	36.0
Jackson	16,434	16,982	3.3	17,874	5.3	19,470	8.9	20,941	7.6	22,482	7.4	22,798	1.4	38.7
Kalamazoo	22,943	23,830	3.9	25,239	5.9	27,318	8.2	28,395	3.9	30,585	7.7	31,541	3.1	37.5
Kent	49,064	51,738	5.5	57,726	11.6	65,925	14.2	71,027	7.7	78,004	9.8	81,308	4.2	65.7
Lake/Mason	5,924	5,979	0.9	6,327	5.8	6,912	9.2	7,218	4.4	7,762	7.5	7,680	(1.1)	29.6
Lapeer	5,341	5,332	(0.2)	6,025	13.0	7,081	17.5	7,669	8.3	8,786	14.6	9,042	2.9	69.3
Lenawee	8,281	8,236	(0.5)	8,843	7.4	10,052	13.7	10,726	6.7	11,548	7.7	11,968	3.6	44.5
Livingston	4,017	4,391	9.3	4,978	13.4	5,824	17.0	6,461	10.9	7,292	12.9	7,837	7.5	95.1
Mackinac	1,037	n/a	n/a	1,132	n/a	1,192	5.3	1,280	7.4	1,282	0.2	1,516	18.3	46.2
Macomb	40,145	42,098	4.9	46,774	11.1	55,678	19.0	63,045	13.2	70,054	11.1	72,522	3.5	80.7
Manistee	3,036	3,084	1.6	3,421	10.9	3,543	3.6	3,694	4.3	3,685	(0.2)	3,843	4.3	26.6
Marquette	5,973	6,391	7.0	6,509	1.8	7,083	8.8	7,389	4.3	7,931	7.3	7,998	0.8	33.9
Mecosta	4,869	5,257	8.0	5,614	6.8	6,074	8.2	6,237	2.7	6,862	10.0	6,885	0.3	41.4
Midland	6,651	6,721	1.1	7,175	6.8	8,024	11.8	8,760	9.2	9,402	7.3	9,576	1.9	44.0
Missaukee/Wexford	6,015	5,903	(1.9)	6,588	11.6	7,763	17.8	8,168	5.2	8,688	6.4	8,777	1.0	45.9
Monroe	9,975	9,894	(0.8)	10,526	6.4	12,050	14.5	13,126	8.9	14,566	11.0	14,775	1.4	48.1
Montmorency/Oscoda	2,817	3,036	7.8	3,230	6.4	3,521	9.0	3,699	5.1	3,753	1.5	3,782	0.8	34.3
Muskegon	24,228	24,726	2.1	26,609	7.6	29,177	9.7	31,250	7.1	32,841	5.1	33,808	2.9	39.5
Newaygo	5,745	5,770	0.4	6,471	12.1	7,511	16.1	7,801	3.9	8,353	7.1	8,602	3.0	49.7
Oakland	60,731	61,652	1.5	65,431	6.1	72,014	10.1	77,928	8.2	83,948	7.7	86,844	3.4	43.0
Oceana	4,114	4,394	6.8	4,737	7.8	5,324	12.4	5,597	5.1	5,882	5.1	6,462	9.9	57.1
Ogemaw/Roscommon	7,392	7,434	0.6	8,042	8.2	8,817	9.6	8,968	1.7	9,257	3.2	9,599	3.7	29.9
Ontonagon	1,111	1,148	3.3	1,133	(1.3)	1,205	6.4	1,149	(4.6)	1,187	3.3	1,194	0.6	7.5
Osceola	3,389	3,380	(0.3)	3,637	7.6	3,879	6.7	4,115	6.1	4,364	6.1	4,472	2.5	32.0
Otsego	2,216	2,521	13.8	2,797	10.9	3,250	16.2	3,603	10.9	3,812	5.8	3,835	0.6	73.1
Ottawa	9,392	10,244	9.1	11,715	14.4	14,099	20.3	15,929	13.0	18,434	15.7	19,078	3.5	103.1
Presque Isle	1,617	1,605	(0.7)	1,706	6.3	1,714	0.5	1,900	10.9	1,896	(0.2)	1,898	0.1	17.4
Saginaw	32,765	33,288	1.6	34,325	3.1	35,928	4.7	37,088	3.2	38,372	3.5	38,856	1.3	18.6
St. Clair	13,817	14,219	2.9	15,184	6.8	17,871	17.7	19,745	10.5	21,401	8.4	21,444	0.2	55.2
St. Joseph	6,359	6,612	4.0	7,813	18.2	9,007	15.3	9,586	6.4	10,119	5.6	10,333	2.1	62.5
Sanilac	4,414	4,674	5.9	5,216	11.6	5,863	12.4	6,483	10.6	6,959	7.3	7,041	1.2	59.5
Tuscola	5,682	5,905	3.9	6,358	7.7	7,495	17.9	7,790	3.9	8,378	7.5	8,553	2.1	50.5
Van Buren	10,868	10,907	0.4	11,823	8.4	13,001	10.0	13,727	5.6	14,407	5.0	14,961	3.8	37.7
Washtenaw	16,384	16,973	3.6	18,047	6.3	19,595	8.6	20,853	6.4	22,940	10.0	23,977	4.5	46.3
Wayne	367,883	359,190	(2.4)	361,007	0.5	377,342	4.5	391,637	3.8	403,188	2.9	411,975	2.2	12.0
<b>Total State</b>	<b>1,059,919</b>	<b>1,068,325</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>1,122,744</b>	<b>5.1%</b>	<b>1,221,273</b>	<b>8.8%</b>	<b>1,291,816</b>	<b>5.8%</b>	<b>1,370,755</b>	<b>6.1%</b>	<b>1,404,458</b>	<b>2.5%</b>	<b>32.5%</b>

Source: Family Independence Agency Monthly Assistance Payments Statistics

## LEAST AFFECTED COUNTIES

Table 5 presents summary information (estimated population, unemployment rate, percentage of population enrolled in Medicaid) for the 10 counties that experienced the smallest percentage increase in Medicaid enrollment between 1999 and 2004. This information is provided to determine whether there were specific characteristics these counties shared that have permitted them to avoid the larger increases in Medicaid enrollment experienced throughout most of the State.

<b>County</b>	<b>Medicaid % Change 1999-2004</b>	<b>Estimated 2003 Population</b>	<b>2004 % Unemployment</b>	<b>% of Population with Medicaid</b>
Ontonagon	7.5%	7,571	8.4%	15.4%
Gogebic	11.5	17,329	7.2	16.5
Wayne	12.0	2,028,778	8.8	20.3
Alger/Schoolcraft	14.1	18,539	8.5	15.7
Presque Isle	17.4	14,286	11.8	13.1
Alcona	17.8	11,572	10.0	14.7
Saginaw	18.6	209,327	9.1	18.6
Crawford	18.9	14,808	8.5	17.0
Berrien	20.8	162,766	7.3	17.1
Ingham	22.0	282,030	6.0	13.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>12.4</i>	<i>2,767,006</i>	<i>8.4</i>	<i>19.2</i>
<b>State of Michigan</b>	<b>32.5</b>	<b>10,179,985</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>13.9</b>

Source: Family Independence Agency Monthly Assistance Payment Statistics, US Census Bureau and US Bureau of Labor Statistics

The first noticeable common trait shared by a number of these counties is region. Six of the 10 counties in Table 5 are located in the Upper Peninsula or the northeastern portion of the Lower Peninsula. Examination of these counties also suggests a relationship between unemployment rate and growth of Medicaid enrollment over this period. Of the 10 counties that experienced the lowest growth in Medicaid enrollment, nine had unemployment rates in 2004 in excess of rate reported for the State as a whole. The unemployment rate for these counties combined is also higher than the State figure. Additionally, the table suggests that counties that experienced lower increases in Medicaid enrollment already had a significant portion of their population enrolled in the program. The combined percentage of population participating in Medicaid in 2004 for the counties in Table 5 is significantly higher than that for the State. Additionally, eight of the 10 counties listed in Table 5 have a higher percentage of population enrolled in Medicaid than the proportion found statewide.

## MOST AFFECTED COUNTIES

Table 6 below displays the same summary information for the 10 counties that saw the largest percentage increases in Medicaid enrollment over the period of 1999 to 2004.

**Table 6**

<b>COUNTIES WITH HIGHEST INCREASES IN MEDICAID ENROLLMENT</b>				
<b>County</b>	<b>Medicaid % Change 1999-2004</b>	<b>Estimated 2003 Population</b>	<b>2004 % Unemployment</b>	<b>% of Population on with Medicaid</b>
Ottawa	103.1%	249,391	5.5%	7.6%
Livingston	95.1	172,881	4.1	4.5
Allegan	92.3	110,331	6.9	12.0
Macomb	80.7	813,948	6.7	8.8
Otsego	73.1	24,268	7.3	15.8
Lapeer	69.3	91,314	8.2	9.9
Kent	65.7	590,417	6.9	13.8
Barry/Eaton	65.6	164,971	4.7	10.0
Hillsdale	62.8	47,230	8.1	14.6
St. Joseph	62.5	62,864	6.6	16.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>74.8</i>	<i>2,327,615</i>	<i>6.4</i>	<i>10.3</i>
<b>State of Michigan</b>	<b>32.5</b>	<b>10,179,985</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>13.9</b>

Source: Family Independence Agency Monthly Assistance Payment Statistics, US Census Bureau and US Bureau of Labor Statistics

Unlike the counties that saw the lowest increases in Medicaid enrollment, the counties presented in Table 6 are not clustered in any particular region of the State. Once again, there appears to be a relationship between Medicaid enrollment growth and unemployment. The combined unemployment figure for these 10 counties is lower than that of the State as a whole. Seven of the 10 counties in Table 6 have unemployment rates lower than that of the State as a whole. The ties between percentage of population participating in Medicaid and growth of enrollment are further demonstrated with seven of the 10 counties in Table 6 reporting a greater proportion of their population enrolled in Medicaid than the statewide rate. The combined Medicaid participation rate for these counties further bolsters this finding, with 10.3% of the combined county population in Medicaid compared with the State participation rate of 13.9%.

## REGIONAL ENROLLMENT TRENDS

Table 7 provides annual Medicaid enrollment figures between 1999 and 2004 organized by nine geographic regions in Michigan. The regional breakdown further demonstrates the broad-based nature of the growth in Medicaid enrollment. Each of the nine regions experienced double-digit percentage increases in enrollment over this time period. The western portion of the State experienced the largest percentage change in enrollment, with counties in the western and northwestern regions reporting an increase of 59.3% and 48.8%, respectively. The smallest regional increases are found in the Upper Peninsula (a finding consistent with the information reported in Table 5) and the southeastern portion of the State, a somewhat unexpected result.

**Table 7**  
**MEDICAID ENROLLMENT**  
**BY REGION: 1999-2004**

Region <sup>2</sup>	April 1999	April 2000	% Chg.	April 2001	% Chg.	April 2002	% Chg.	April 2003	% Chg.	April 2004	% Chg.	Oct 2004	% Chg.	% Chg. 99-04
Southeast	512,952	508,417	(0.9)%	521,947	2.7%	560,374	7.4%	592,795	5.8%	623,389	5.2%	639,374	2.6%	24.6%
Southcentral	81,344	82,975	2.0	89,697	8.1	98,442	9.7	103,924	5.6	112,188	8.0	114,980	2.5	41.4
Southwest	39,231	39,130	(0.3)	42,064	7.5	45,613	8.4	47,276	3.6	49,226	4.1	50,369	2.3	28.4
Mid-Michigan	121,983	123,929	1.6	130,236	5.1	141,370	8.5	148,070	4.7	157,343	6.3	161,379	2.6	32.3
Central	98,040	99,528	1.5	105,774	6.3	114,675	8.4	120,098	4.7	126,517	5.3	128,768	1.8	31.3
West Michigan	125,184	130,782	4.5	144,046	10.1	163,415	13.4	176,370	7.9	193,097	9.5	199,365	3.2	59.3
Northeast MI	14,566	15,265	24.7	16,339	7.0	17,838	9.2	18,791	5.3	19,405	3.3	19,306	(0.5)	32.5
Northwest MI	29,980	26,866	(10.4)	33,373	24.2	37,408	12.1	40,285	7.7	43,420	7.8	44,604	2.7	48.8
Upper Penins.	36,639	36,915	0.8	39,268	6.4	42,138	7.3	44,207	4.9	46,170	4.4	46,313	0.3	26.4
<b>Total State</b>	<b>1,059,919</b>	<b>1,068,325</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>1,122,744</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>1,221,273</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>1,291,816</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>1,370,755</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>1,404,458</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>32.5</b>

Source: Family Independence Agency Monthly Assistance Payment Statistics

<sup>2</sup> **Southeast:** St. Clair, Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, Washtenaw and Wayne Counties

**Southcentral:** Lenawee, Hillsdale, Jackson, St. Joseph, Kalamazoo, Branch and Calhoun Counties

**Southwest:** Van Buren, Cass and Berrien Counties

**Mid-Michigan:** Genesee, Lapeer, Ingham, Barry, Eaton, Clinton and Shiawassee Counties

**Central:** Gladwin, Isabella, Huron, Gratiot, Tuscola, Ogemaw, Roscommon, Saginaw, Bay, Arenac, Sanilac, Midland, Iosco and Clare Counties

**West:** Osceola, Ottawa, Kent, Mecosta, Ionia, Montcalm, Allegan, Newaygo, Oceana, Muskegon, Lake and Mason Counties

**Northeast:** Alcona, Otsego, Crawford, Presque Isle, Alpena, Montmorency and Oscoda Counties

**Northwest:** Missaukee, Wexford, Manistee, Charlevoix, Emmet, Benzie, Leelanau, Antrim, Kalkaska, Grand Traverse and Cheboygan Counties

**Upper Peninsula:** Chippewa, Luce, Baraga, Ontonagon, Alger, Schoolcraft, Delta, Menominee, Mackinac, Houghton, Keweenaw, Gogebic, Dickinson, Iron and Marquette Counties



## SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN

A closer look at the counties that comprise the southeastern region reveals that the lower-than-average increase in enrollment is not consistent throughout the region. All of the counties in this region, with the exception of Wayne County, saw significant increases in enrollment, far larger than the 32.5% increase experienced statewide. In fact, if Wayne County were excluded from the region, southeastern Michigan would have seen an overall percentage increase in Medicaid enrollment of 56.7%, which would have been the second largest regional change in the State.

**Table 8**  
**MEDICAID ENROLLMENT**  
**SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN: 1999-2004**

County	April 1999	April 2000	% Chg.	April 2001	% Chg.	April 2002	% Chg.	April 2003	% Chg.	April 2004	% Chg.	Oct 2004	% Chg.	% Chg. 99-04
Wayne	367,883	359,190	(2.4)%	361,007	0.5%	377,342	4.5%	391,637	3.8%	403,188	2.9%	411,975	2.2%	12.0%
Oakland	60,731	61,652	1.5	65,431	6.1	72,014	10.1	77,928	8.2	83,948	7.7	86,844	3.4	43.0
Macomb	40,145	42,098	4.9	46,774	11.1	55,678	19.0	63,045	13.2	70,054	11.1	72,522	3.5	80.7
Washtenaw	16,384	16,973	3.6	18,047	6.3	19,595	8.6	20,853	6.4	22,940	10.0	23,977	4.5	46.3
St Clair	13,817	14,219	2.9	15,184	6.8	17,871	17.7	19,745	10.5	21,401	8.4	21,444	0.2	55.2
Monroe	9,975	9,894	(0.8)	10,526	6.4	12,050	14.5	13,126	8.9	14,566	11.0	14,775	1.4	48.1
Livingston	4,017	4,391	9.3	4,978	13.4	5,824	17.0	6,461	10.9	7,292	12.9	7,837	7.5	95.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>512,952</b>	<b>508,417</b>	<b>(0.9)</b>	<b>521,947</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>560,374</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>592,795</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>623,389</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>639,374</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>24.6</b>

Source: Family Independence Agency Monthly Assistance Payment Statistics

## THE "I-75 CORRIDOR"

The below-average Medicaid enrollment growth in Wayne County from 1999 to 2004 is also evident in counties with characteristics similar to those of Wayne County. [Table 9](#) provides enrollment information for counties that make up the "I-75 corridor". These communities, which include Wayne County, tend to be more heavily urban, be more economically reliant upon manufacturing, and have a higher-than-average percentage of residents enrolled the Medicaid program (collectively about 16% compared with the State level of 13.9%).

**Table 9**  
**MEDICAID ENROLLMENT**  
**"I-75 CORRIDOR": 1999-2004**

<b>County</b>	<b>April 1999</b>	<b>April 2000</b>	<b>% Chg.</b>	<b>April 2001</b>	<b>% Chg.</b>	<b>April 2002</b>	<b>% Chg.</b>	<b>April 2003</b>	<b>% Chg.</b>	<b>April 2004</b>	<b>% Chg.</b>	<b>Oct 2004</b>	<b>% Chg.</b>	<b>% Chg. 99-04</b>
Bay	12,662	12,648	(0.1)%	13,338	5.5%	14,066	5.5%	14,748	4.8%	15,656	6.2%	15,920	0.8%	24.6%
Saginaw	32,765	33,288	1.6	34,325	3.1	35,928	4.7	37,088	3.2	38,372	3.5	38,856	1.3	18.6
Genesee	65,571	66,889	2.0	69,131	3.4	74,554	7.8	77,469	3.9	80,937	4.5	82,408	1.6	25.4
Oakland	60,731	61,652	1.5	65,431	6.1	72,014	10.1	77,928	8.2	83,948	7.7	86,844	2.5	41.7
Wayne	367,883	359,190	(2.4)	361,007	0.5	377,342	4.5	391,637	3.8	403,188	2.9	411,975	1.9	11.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>539,612</b>	<b>533,667</b>	<b>(1.1)</b>	<b>543,232</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>573,904</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>598,870</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>622,101</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>636,003</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>17.4</b>

Source: Family Independence Agency Monthly Assistance Payment Statistics

As demonstrated in Table 9, Medicaid enrollment in the five counties that make up the I-75 corridor collectively increased by 17.4%, a figure significantly below that seen statewide (32.5%). This result is consistent in the individual counties within the group with only one county (Oakland) experiencing Medicaid enrollment growth that exceeded that of the State.

## CONCLUSION

Enrollment in the Medicaid program in Michigan steadily grew from 1999 to 2004. This growth is consistent with caseload growth reported in most other states. This growth has been largely confined to eligibility groups made up of children, parents of young children, and pregnant women, although there has been growth in categories reserved for the elderly and disabled (categories seemingly less tied to the status of the State's economy).

Every county in the State and every region of the State experienced significant increases in Medicaid caseload over this period of time. It appears that areas that have a low proportion of their population on Medicaid (counties in the western portion of the State and more affluent counties in southeastern Michigan) were more vulnerable to greater-than-average increases in caseload. Conversely, counties with an above-average proportion of their population participating in the Medicaid program (Wayne, Genesee, Saginaw and some counties in the Upper Peninsula) experienced lower rates of enrollment growth than was observed statewide.